



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

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President's Message



I'd like to start by hoping that everyone had a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

What a busy month we had in December. Starting out with our School Support Project we had a great turnout to thank the teachers, staff and administrators for all they do for our children and community. Many thanks to Karen Vanderbilt for spearheading this initiative and making it happen. Also, many thanks for all that helped make this project a fun, huge success.

We moved right into the Holiday Spectacular and were able to again put Avon Rotary out in the public eye. Dom and his crew did a wonderful job with the crepes and the whole community benefited from all the different organizations that were present that day. It was also an opportunity for our Interact Club to provide a service project, letters to Santa. So great to see our youth doing good in our community. The chilly temperatures didn't deter anyone from enjoying their time on the village streets. Many thanks to all of you that participated in the event.

Once again, we are very fortunate to induct new members into our club. Beginning with our welcoming back of Paul Warren and Nick Lovullo. We also welcomed new members Will, Jamie, and Cat into our club and know that they will be active members with new ideas that will help our club as we continue to move forward. Our congratulations to all and thank you for choosing Avon Rotary.

We hosted the very first public event at the newly renovated Avon Park Theater on December 11th, "A Christmas Carol". Josh Tonra, deserves a huge thank you for all the hard

work and leadership. In addition, there was Kelly Tonra, Nick, Jamie, Helen, Katie, Kirk & Jeff who I know were also responsible for all the wonderful refreshments, ticket sales, and behind the scenes tasks. Our thanks to all that donated to and supported the event. It was a great presentation by Kim Tenreiro and I know all who attended enjoyed it. The monies raised will certainly be a great help to both the Avon Food Pantry and Avon Community Theater.

I'd also like to thank Katie Degraff for her efforts on a successful coat drive. Another great example of an Avon Rotarian stepping up with an idea and making it happen to benefit those in need.

Another highlight in December was recognizing our Paul Harris +pin recipients; Kirk, Jerry and Bob House. Your continued support of the Foundation is a great example for all.

We ended our December with a very nice Christmas gathering at the Avon Inn. The food and service was outstanding and I hope all who attended enjoyed a night of fun and fellowship. Thanks to Laurie and Katie for arranging a few fun games.

Well this month marks the halfway point of this Rotary Year. Time certainly does fly by. As we move into the New Year there are still many opportunities for us to do good in our community and around the world. I ask that each of you continue to think of ideas that will bring goodwill and service to our community and let me know how Avon Rotary can make it happen. All my best for a safe and happy New Year to all of you.

Yours In Rotary Service,

Tom Vonglis, President 2021-2022

Avon Rotary Club meets

Tuesdays at 6:30 pm

Board of Directors

Tom Vonglis, President
Steve Csapo, President Elect
Mike Ford, Senior Director
Karen Vanderbilt, Director
Bruce Amey, Member at Large
Julie Carney, Past President
Laurie Vonglis, Secretary
Katie DeGraff, Treasurer



Club Schedule

Tues. Jan. 4	NO MEETING Happy New Year!
Tues. Jan. 11	Regular Meeting 6:30 Program: Tanya McCready—Winter Dance Dog Sled
Mon. Jan. 17	Board of Directors Meeting 6:30 at Circlevue Conference Room
Tues. Jan. 18	Regular Meeting 6:30 & TBD
Tues. Jan. 25	Regular Meeting 6:30 & TBD



Birthday

- ⇒ **Greg Antkowiak**
- ⇒ **Julie Carney**
- ⇒ **Jerry Dougherty**
- ⇒ **Charles Feller**
- ⇒ **James Gaffney (H)**
- ⇒ **Doug Hayes**
- ⇒ **Barbara Herman**
- ⇒ **Bob House**
- ⇒ **Jaime Lovullo**

January Celebrations



Wedding Anniversary

- ⇒ **Helen Zamboni**

Rotary Anniversary

- ⇒ **Kirk Vanderbilt 2003**
- ⇒ **Bob French 2009**
- ⇒ **Jim Ryan 2010**
- ⇒ **Chris Masten 2011**
- ⇒ **Mike Ford 2017**

December Highlights

School Support Project

November 30 & December 1: Avon Rotarians, Interactors, and family members took part in a service project making and holding signs of encouragement to let our Avon School District teachers and support staff know how much we appreciate them. The event that was the brainchild of Rotarian Karen Vanderbilt was intended to simply put a smile on the faces of our hard working teachers and support staff that have had a rough time working through a pandemic the last couple years and to let them know that we have their back. Thank you to all our Avon teachers and staff! As one of the signs says: "You are doing a freaking great job!"

Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media



Holiday Spectacular Service Project

December 4: A crew of Avon Rotarians, served up delicious, fresh made crepes in front of the Hurricane Technologies building at the Avon Holiday Spectacular. Led by crepe chef, Dom Lalisce and his wife Nadine, volunteers cooked and served through the cold and wind. All proceeds raised go to benefit Avon Community Cares.



In addition, our Avon Interact Club spent the afternoon assisting children writing letters and mailing to Santa.

Many thanks to all involved.
Submitted by: Laurie Vonglis



December Highlights Continued

New Member Night



Paul Warren, President Tom Vonglis,
Nick Lovullo

December 7: Avon Rotary grew by five. Please join us in welcoming back to the club Paul Warren and Nick Lovullo both who left the club and now return after their hiatuses.

We also would like to welcome and congratulate our three newest members: Jaime Lovullo, Will McLaughlin, and Cat Jensen.

Submitted by: Mike Ford via social media



Jaime Lovullo, Josh Tonra-sponsor, Will
McLaughlin, Cat Jensen, Kirk Vanderbilt-sponsor

Avon Rotary Presenting A Christmas Carol

December 11: Josh Tonra led a crew of 11 volunteers and organized a wonderful holiday event for the Community of Avon. The one man show featuring Kim Tenreiro telling the classic story of A Christmas Carol, was held at The Avon Park Theatre. This beautifully renovated facility was a perfect venue for this event, which hosted over 70 patrons. Refreshments were provided and donated (or discounted) by the generosity of the Tonra's, Lovullo's, Helen Zamboni, Geneseo Wegmans, Avon Tops, Avon Dunkin Donuts and All Seasons Wine and Spirits.

All proceeds raised will benefit the Avon Food Pantry and Avon Community Theatre.

Great job everyone!

Submitted by: Laurie Vonglis



Helen Zamboni & Nick Lovullo



Kelly & Josh Tonra, Jaime Lovullo



Foundation Presentation

December 14: On this occasion two club members were presented with their Paul Harris plus pins for their continued contributions to the Rotary Foundation. Kirk Vanderbilt was awarded his Paul Harris plus 2 pin and Jerry Dougherty was awarded his Paul Harris plus 5 pin. Laurie Vonglis, a foundation committee member gave the presentation which recognizes their gifts as truly selfless actions and demonstrates a commitment to our common goals of world understanding and



peace. Kirk and Jerry were thanked for using their time, talent and treasure to enhance the lives of others. Congratulations Kirk and Jerry!

December 21: At our holiday party, Rotarian Bob House was presented his Paul Harris plus 1 pin for his support to the Rotary Foundation. Congratulations Bob for your generosity which supports improving lives all over the world.

Submitted by: Laurie Vonglis



Every year members of the Avon Rotary Club sign up for a whole week of bell ringing for The Salvation Army, Avon Service Unit's bell ringing at Tops. This service project helps raise funds for area neighbors in need and is organized by Rotarian Mike Ford and his wife Richelle.

"It's that time of year when giving for others feels so good. Remember giving and service to others is not restricted to just one time per year. As a Rotarian, service for others is happening throughout the year." Rotarian Bruce Amey



Thank you for all your service to the community.

Coats 4 Kids Service Project



I am thrilled to share that Avon Rotary was able to donate over 40 coats to our Coats 4 Kids drive. In a little over a month we were able to provide an essential winter item to families in need. Thank you to all who participated. When we arrived at Catholic Charities to drop off the donation, they were thrilled to see what our community was able to achieve and so thankful to have our support.

Submitted by: Katie DeGraff, Project Lead



Introducing our New Members



CAT JENSEN

Hi everyone! My name is Cathryn Jensen, aka: "Cat". I was fortunate enough to retire from NYS Corrections on my birthday in 2012. It was the greatest 50th birthday gift I could ever give myself. It was an obvious but epic realization that I had spent so much of my work life drowning in a bleak, gloomy, and dismissive arena. So moving forward, I made a promise to myself; a commitment that I would only involve myself with positive, productive jobs or activities that feed my soul. I take this self-created promise very seriously.

Facets of this commitment included working at the Genesee Country Museum, driving school bus, caretaking of several senior residents of Avon, and managing the "Meals on Wheels" & "Senior Nutrition Program" held at the Village Hall. These jobs taught me several life lessons but more importantly, that I possessed a gift of working with the senior population. I quickly realized that acts of service, kindness, and

patience were not only helping others but feeding my soul as well. This was an amazing revelation.

I have a B.S. in Sociology from the University of Buffalo and a graduate degree in Criminal Justice from Kaplan University.

Favorites I couldn't live without include Broadway shows, music, animals, concerts, and traveling. I enjoy boating, camping, Tito's and watching football (GO JETS!). My friends are my chosen family and I love them dearly. I am genuinely grateful to add Rotary to my bucket list!

Cat's Contact Information:

catwomyn19@gmail.com

752-0219

2025 Oak Hill Dr. Avon, NY



WILL MCLAUGHLIN

I grew up in Hammondsport and am proud to have parents that were one of many siblings, who both grew up working on their family farm. In the small Hammondsport School District, I enjoyed participating in many of the extra-curricular sports, music, academic, and youth activities. As a youth, I spent much of my time as a scout, earning the rank of Eagle, and working many years as a Camp Counselor at the Boy Scout Camp Gorton on Waneta Lake. After graduating from SUNY Geneseo with a degree in Mathematics and a HS Teaching Certificate, I was fortunate enough to spend my last summer as the Camp Director.

While working as a HS Math teacher in Warsaw, I married, moved into Avon with my wife Lorrie, earned a Masters Degree in Computer Science from RIT, and started to have children. After leaving Warsaw to teach in the Victor school district, I found myself teaching for the Finger Lakes Community College as an

Adjunct professor. I found great enjoyment in the college teaching environment, where I am now in my 11th year and serving as the Chairperson of the Computing Sciences Department.

Working with students outside the classroom has always been a highlight of my educational career. In Warsaw, I was a coach for tennis, track, and soccer. In Victor, I was able to be a Diving coach. While at FLCC, I have mentored different youth clubs, but more recently developed the eSport program that now hosts over 60 students who compete in different Collegiate Leagues, most notably the NCJAA.

I now have four beautiful daughters who have started their successful educational journey in Avon, with the oldest having a great first semester at SUNY Binghamton. I have had the opportunity to coach in different youth organizations while working with my kids in baseball and soccer.

I am both honored and humbled to be a part of the Avon Rotary Club, to join the many great members of the community who proudly provide service before self. I look forward to joining my fellow Rotarians in giving back to the wonderful community, and others in need all over the world.

Will's Contact Information:

professorwcm@gmail.com

730-2861

158 Temple St. Avon, NY

Introducing our New Members *continued*



JAIME LOVULLO

I am honored to have been selected to become a member of Rotary. The Rotary Mission is, "Service Above Self" – I love that. I am thankful to be among an amazing group of individuals who share my passion for helping others...and also appreciate my sense of humor and sarcasm.

My husband loves being a member of Rotary, and even though he'll be here every week with me, I think I'm going to love it too.

A little bit about me: My husband and I have lived in Avon together for almost 20 years; in that time we have purchased a house, been married, had 2 children (Natalie, 14 and Jackson, 12), and most importantly, made this community our home.

I have always wanted to help people and started my philanthropic journey with serving on the Board of Directors for Bridges for Brain Injury in Canandaigua and Circle Nursery School right here in Avon, then several years on the Avon PTA and Girl Scouts, and currently serving on the Holiday Spectacular Committee and Avon Free Library board. Nick and I have always sought out ways we can help others, and included our children in volunteering at the St. Agnes soup kitchen, donating to the local nursing homes and food pantry, partnering with RRH InterVol and Ronald McDonald House, donating and serving as a volunteer to bring school supplies to families in need in Rochester, adopting families at Christmas time which includes providing gifts, as well as, food for families less fortunate, and volunteering our time in sport and school programs and events.

Now that our children are out of the Elementary School, and volunteering opportunities lessen as they grow up, Rotary seems like the logical next step in allowing me to help shape the place we call home. We want to be an example to our children that changing the world for the better is something we can do.

Stick with me for a little history:

Until 1989, the Constitution and Bylaws of Rotary International stated that Rotary club membership was for males only. In 1978 the Rotary Club of Duarte, California, invited 3 women to become members. The RI board withdrew the charter of that club for violation of the RI Constitution. The club brought suit against RI claiming a violation of a state civil rights law which prevents discrimination of any form in business establishments or public accommodations. The appeals court and the California Supreme Court supported the Duarte position that Rotary could not remove the club's charter merely for inducting women into the club. The United States Supreme Court upheld the California court indicating that Rotary clubs do have a "business purpose" and are in some ways public-type organizations. This action in 1987 allowed women to become Rotarians in any jurisdiction having similar "public accommodation" statuses.

Why bring this up other than to note this was possibly the best decision they ever made? Because Rotary was doing great things for many years, no one can possibly deny that. However, encouraging members from diverse backgrounds supports the growth and adaptability of our club. It is critical that people represent diverse interests and backgrounds, which better allows us to serve a diverse community and world.

There is always room for new ideas, new ways of thinking about serving others, new ways we can help people, and I plan on helping to bring some of that fresh perspective to this group while consistently supporting the core values.

I will continue my efforts to provide service to others and look forward to working closely with this group to create lasting change.

I am humbled and appreciative you have chosen me to help support your mission and I plan to do so with grace and integrity. Thank you.

Jaime's Contact Information: lovullojaime@gmail.com

738-9594

4789 Darby Rd. Avon, NY

TEAM WORK: Coming together is the beginning.
Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.

Holiday Shenanigans



December 21: On this special occasion we celebrated our annual Christmas party with a wonderful buffet meal at the Avon Inn. Many thanks to our activity elves, Laurie, Katie & Joe for arranging some entertaining shenanigans. Congratulations to our 'Ugly Sweater' winner, Mike Ford and 'Reindeer Toss Game' team, Mike Giso, Josh Tonra & Terry Hayes.



New Custom License Plate for NYS Rotarians



A new custom Rotary license plate will soon be available for New York State Rotarians!

The new custom plate will feature the Rotary logo and our motto, "Service Above Self."

District 7120 Governor Janet Tenreiro along with District 7040 Area Governor Michael Griffin are taking point on this project, which has the support of all nine district governors in NY State.

The new plate will take the place of Rotary's current custom plate in NY, which uses the old logo and has no motto.

For more information visit the district website:

<https://rotary7120.org/Stories/new-custom-license-plate-for-nys-rotarians>

Submitted from the District 7120 website



Rambling On Rotary—January



By: Bruce Amey


As we begin a new year, we leave December and enter January. The month January is so named because Janus, the Roman god of beginnings and ends, presiding over every entrance and departure, was usually depicted as having two faces looking in opposite directions, one towards the past and the other towards the future. As we enter a new year, it offers the opportunity to look back at last year and to look ahead to the next, each of us a part of our local club team and part of the global Rotary team.

Looking back to the December issue of the Rotary magazine, Past RI President John Germ described TEAM as “Together, Everyone Achieves More”. He went on to say, “You can’t have a great team without great PEOPLE. P stands for pride in our organization, our achievements, and our potential. E is our empathy for others, which we transform into service. O has two parts: the tremendous opportunities to make a difference that Rotary has granted us, and an obligation to pull others up and to increase our ranks. Our second P is for perseverance, helping us stick to our goals ... when the going gets tough. L stands for leadership, and E for enthusiasm – the fuel of Rotary.”

The December Rotary magazine also had an article “The Language of Hope” where it offered quotations from various world figures. A mountaineer/educator Greg Mortenson said, “Politics does not bring peace; people bring peace. The “fight against terrorism” is based on fear, but efforts to promote peace are based on hope. The real enemy is the ignorance that breeds hatred. Rotary, with its connections between clubs in different countries, is one example of how people can bring peace.” Bernice King, daughter of Martin Luther King, Jr. said, “Daddy didn’t set out to change the world; he identified his passions... He was not seeking to be great; he was seeking to be faithful to the call in his life and the passion that he had. The key word is to focus – to focus in the area of your passion.”

Looking ahead, the Rotary theme for January is Vocational Service. The diversity of vocations within our club is extraordinary. We have educators, psychologists, counselors, occupational therapists, attorneys, food servers and cooks, electricians, bankers, those in construction, apparel designers, funeral directors, a boat captain, physicians, land surveyors, financial planners, farmers, clergy, journalists, business consultants, caregivers, etc. Over the past few months, as we have welcomed new members who have added new vocations to our club. During my induction comments to the new members, I say, “We look to you to be a liaison between us and the other members of your profession. We expect you to educate us about your profession and it becomes your duty to carry Rotary ideals and principles of service to your friends, business associates, and the members of your vocation. Rotary founder Paul Harris said, “Each Rotarian is the connecting link between the idealism of Rotary and your trade or profession.”” Our vocations are how we support our living; the Rotary ideals are how we support our lives. It has been said, “There are no extraordinary human beings. There are only common, ordinary human beings, like you and me, who are able to do extraordinary things if we connect to love and to passion, if we do things that are more important than ourselves.”

“Should old acquaintance be forgot and never brought to mind...”, let’s put things behind us that have risen between us and, as the Rotary family of Avon, embrace the new year together. Let’s celebrate our diversity, let’s continue to learn from each other, let’s embrace with love and passion our responsibility to serve our community, our country, and our world. Working together our club is a TEAM with great PEOPLE to better our community and our world as we bring focus to our passions. Together, we all will achieve more as we continue to “do things that are more important than ourselves”. I’ll raise a glass to toast to that. Happy New Year!! And, as usual, I’ve rambled on long enough.




Rotary

JANUARY IS
VOCATIONAL SERVICES MONTH

“TEAMWORK IS THE ABILITY TO WORK TOGETHER TOWARD A COMMON VISION. THE ABILITY TO DIRECT INDIVIDUAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS TOWARD ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES. IT IS THE FUEL THAT ALLOWS COMMON PEOPLE TO ATTAIN UNCOMMON RESULTS.”

- ANDREW CARNEGIE

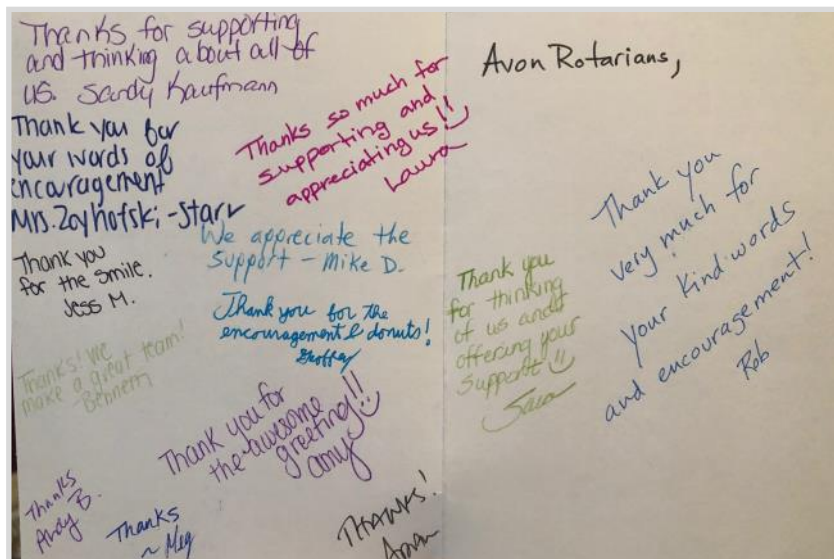
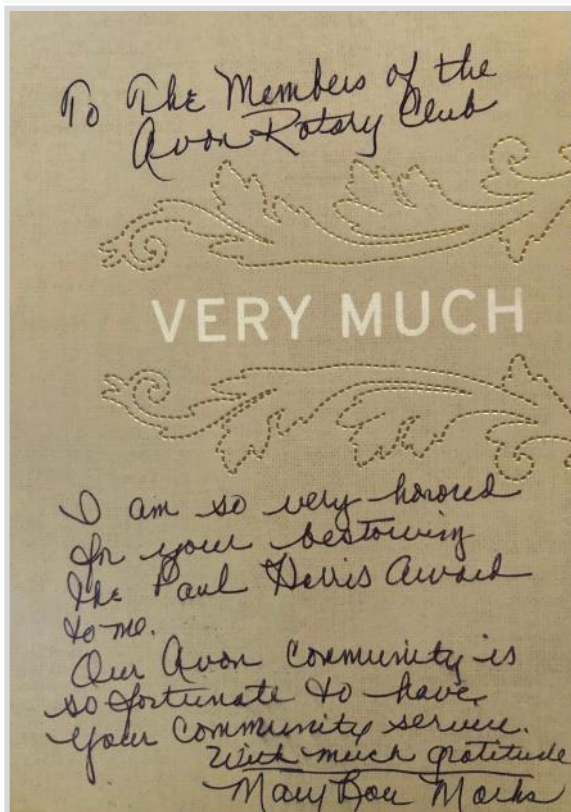


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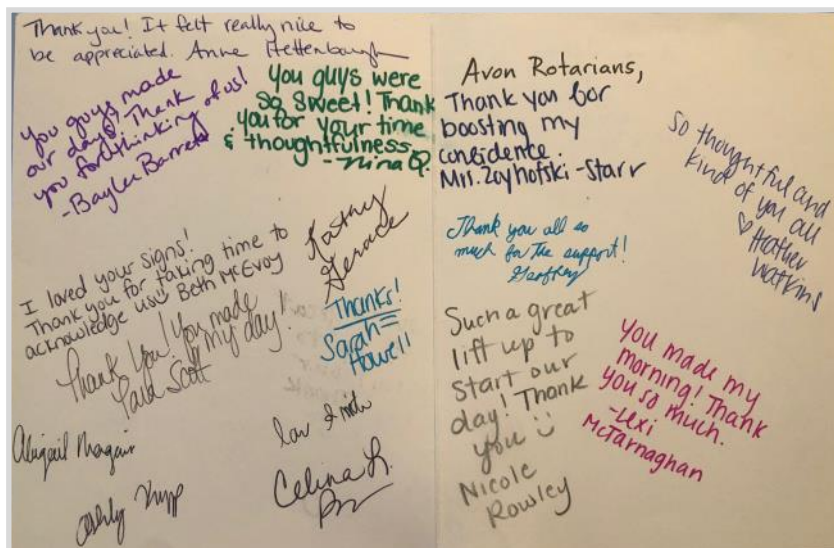
AVON ROTARY



From Mary Lou Marks,
Paul Harris Fellow Presentation



From Avon Elementary School Staff, School Support Project



Our community is literally the best. Thank you to the Avon Rotarians and other well-wishers who braved the cold this morning to thank our teachers and staff for all that they do. We are so lucky to live in such a supportive place!

Michael Dale, Teacher at ACS

SAVE THE DATE!

REC NNECT

DISTRICT CONFERENCE

April 29, 30, and May 1, 2022

For more information: 2022Rotary@gmail.com

7120
Rotary
District



SERVE TO CHANGE LIVES

Hosted by Rotary Club of Canandaigua



26 E. First St., Oswego, NY 13126



**END
POLIO
NOW**

2021 Wild Polio Case Counts as of December 31, 2021

<u>Country</u>	<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2021</u>	<u>Date of last case</u>
Afghanistan	29	56	4	Nov, 2021
Pakistan	147	84	1	Feb, 2021
Total	176	140	5	



For more information go to: <https://polioeradication.org/>

Is a fellow Rotarian ill or in need?

Please contact the club
Sunshine Liaison Agent—
Barbara Herman
226-6735



Avon Food Pantry

Pantry critical needs in January are:

Please drop off at the food pantry or bring to a meeting.

Condiments: ketchup, mustard, mayonnaise, salad dressings

If you have questions, please contact Rhonda Hirschler. Thank you.

